

# TIMBER TALK

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## C.A.W.M.C. 2005 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES:

From all reports, that your editor has received, C.A.W.M.C. had a very successful annual, breakfast, general meeting at the recent C.N.A. convention in Calgary. Secretary, Al Munro has forwarded the official minutes to me and they are printed below. I'm hoping to be able to show, in future bulletins, photos from the convention/meeting and all of the 'woods' issued for this occasion, as well as any other information that is forwarded to me regarding this meeting. The minutes from the Sunday July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting are as follows:

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m., by President, Norm Belsten. There were 22 people in attendance for the breakfast and/or the general meeting. They were Al and Marion Munro, Norm Belsten, Neil Probert, James Williston, Garry Braunwarth, Stan Clute, Paul Johnson, Richard and Aloma Blaylock, Eric Jensen, Terry O'Brien, Edward Ford, Wayne Jacobs, Art Stephenson, Garnet Allen, Allen Gilders, Troy Carlson, Walt Ostromecki, Dave Gillespie, Lonny Duncan and Dan Gosling. Breakfast was served and enjoyed by all.

A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of the five members who passed away since our last meeting, **Earl Salterio, Jerry Remick, Alf Wrigley, Viktor Vidmar and Ted Boxall.**

Norm presented a brief President's report and announced that the association would continue the awards presentation started at the last meeting.

The following awards were presented at this meeting:

**Richard Blaylock** was presented with a **Certificate of Appreciation.**

**Garry Braunwarth, Stan Clute, Neil Probert, Pat White** (to be mailed), and **Lou Vesh** were all awarded **Past President's Awards.**

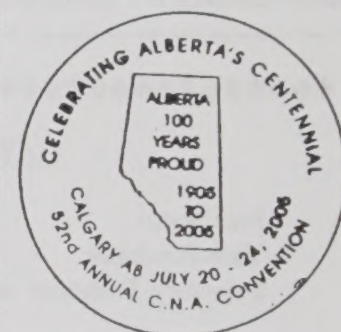
**Al Munro and Norm Belsten** were presented with **Honourary Life Memberships.**

Norm announced that additional awards will be presented, in the future, as warranted by future executives.

Our new executive for year 2005 to year 2007 was announced. **President- Al Munro; Vice President- Vacant; Secretary/Treasurer- Al Munro; Governors- Bob Brown, Russ Brown, Dave Gillespie, Ed MacPherson, Lou Vesh, and James Williston.**

Al Munro presented the Treasurer's report and advised that the Association was in good shape financially due largely to donations received, in the past, from **Lou Vesh** for his **'Birds Of My Garden'** series. Al also highlighted a major item of expense in the statement, that being the cost of the year 2004 and year 2005 awards which were all paid for in year 2004. Al moved acceptance of the report, seconded by James Williston and the motion passed unanimously.

A discussion was held regarding the frequency of the newsletter/bulletin. The consensus from the meeting was that monthly bulletins be published, even if there is no material for the editor to publish. It was felt that receipt of a blank bulletin might prompt some people to provide articles to publish. — continued on page 2





**PAST PRESIDENTS:**

Garry Braunwarth – 1975-1977

Victor Hall – 1977-1979

Don Robb – 1979-1981

Stan Clute – 1981-1983

Neil Probert – 1983-1985

Norm Belsten – 1985-1991

Pat White – 1991-1995

Lou Vesh – 1995-2001

Earl Salterio – 2001-2003

Norm Belsten – 2003-2005

**C.A.W.M.C. GENERAL MEETING MINUTES: -continued from page 1**

Norm turned the meeting over to Al Munro as new President. Al advised that he would attempt to provide information to the membership through a President's message in 'Timber Talk'. He also indicated that he has been informed that CAWMC may receive a donation from the Maritime Wooden Money Organization if it disbands. Al indicated that he plans on attending *next year's 2006 convention in Niagara Falls, Ontario* and hopes to see everyone there. The annual auction was held and raised \$76.00 for CAWMC and \$56.00 for the Southern Ontario Chapter of CAWMC.

Following the meeting, **Art Stephenson** offered to stand as **Vice President**. After discussion with several executive members, Al appointed Art as Vice President.

*Editor's Note: The images that appear alongside these minutes all appear on various 'woods' issued at this year 2005 general meeting.*

**CAWMC OFFICERS**

President: AL MUNRO  
 Vice-President: ART STEPHENSON  
 Secretary-Treasurer and Membership Chairman: AL MUNRO  
 Past-President and Chairman of the Board of Governors: NORM BELSTEN  
 Elected Members of the Board of Governors: BOB BROWN, RUSSELL BROWN, DAVE GILLESPIE, ED MacPHERSON, LOU VESH, JAMES WILLISTON.

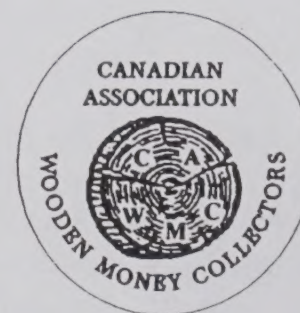
**APPOINTED OFFICERS**

Editor: ROSS KINGDON  
 Fund Raiser: LOU VESH  
 Auction Coordinator: AL MUNRO

**DUES:** Membership dues in the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors are:

Canadian Residents: \$10.00 Canadian Funds  
 United States Residents: \$10.00 U.S. Funds  
 International Members Rate (outside of Canada and U.S.): \$20.00 Canadian Funds  
 Youth (16 years of age and under): \$5.00

Dues paid to Mr. Al Munro, Box 2643 Stn. 'M', Calgary, AB, Canada T2P 3C1

**FREE WOOD OF THE MONTH**

As indicated in last month's bulletin, the free wood for this month is the wood **issued by C.A.W.M.C.** and distributed at the recent breakfast, general meeting in Calgary. **The wood recognizes our Association's thirty years of existence.** This wood was made by our now Past President **Norm Belsten**. The wood is blue in colour on both sides.



**C.A.W.M.C. TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2004**  
**(With Comparative Figures For The Year Ended December 31, 2003)**

	2003	2004
<b>RECEIPTS</b>		
Members's dues	\$825.00	\$830.00
Donation Auction	\$100.50	\$114.00
Donations Bird Woods	0	\$180.00
Other	\$14.00	\$45.00
Interest	\$133.79	\$143.49
U. S. Exchange	<u>\$95.22</u>	<u>\$59.72</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$1,168.51</u></b>	<b><u>\$1,372.21</u></b>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		
Timber Talk	\$400.59	\$590.38
Postage	\$390.71	\$400.90
Printing	\$141.10	\$69.74
Secretary Treasurer	\$20.00	\$0.00
Membership	\$33.00	\$33.00
O.N.A.	\$0.00	\$307.00
C.N.A.	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$50.00</u>
Awards		
Advertising		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$985.40</u></b>	<b><u>\$1,451.02</u></b>
<b>NET RECEIPTS (EXPENDITURES)</b>	<b>\$183.11</b>	<b>-\$78.81</b>
<b>MEMBERS' EQUITY, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$4,350.39</b>	<b>\$4,533.50</b>
<b>MEMBER'S EQUITY, END OF YEAR</b>	<b><u>\$4,533.50</u></b>	<b><u>\$4,454.69</u></b>
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>		
Cash on hand and in bank	\$5,169.99	\$5,150.29
Prepaid postage	\$111.35	0
Less: Prepaid memberships	<u>-\$747.84</u>	<u>-\$695.60</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b><u>\$4,533.50</u></b>	<b><u>\$4,454.69</u></b>



*Art Stephenson is pictured here at the recent CAWMC general meeting in Calgary. Art underwent operations at the Guelph General Hospital upon his return home from Calgary. We all wish him well in his recovery.*



*AN ALASKAN CHRONICLE: - by David 'Rusty' Phillips - continued again, again & again*

This is the 6<sup>th</sup> article submitted by David in his series of *Alaskan 'woods'*. Thank you, David.

**GALENA** – The most Central (in the main body of Alaska) wood (or close enough to legitimize this article...!) This Town of 713 people, originally was established quite close to the water on the north bank of the Yukon River, in 1918, near an old Athabaskan Indian fish camp. (A clue to finding it – 270 air miles west of Fairbanks)

It became a supply and trans-shipment point for nearby lead ore mines. More and more native people moved to Galena around 1920 to sell wood to steamboats and to haul freight to the mines. A school was established in the mid 1920's and a post office opened in 1932. An air field was built during World War 2.

In 1945, the community suffered a major flood. After a 2<sup>nd</sup> severe flood in 1971, a new community site was developed 1 ½ miles east of the original town site. One hundred fifty homes and all government type services buildings were constructed there.

Galena's economy is supported by its being the transportation, government and commercial center for the villages of the western interior. There are also jobs associated with air transportation, some fishing and some seasonal work, eg. construction and fire fighting for the Bureau of Land Management, etc., etc..

The Yukon River and airplanes provide the only major transportation modes, although there are some local roads, but no road access to the 'Outside'.

The only wood that I am aware of from Galena is this “*Hobo's Yukon Inn*” wood. I received this wood from a contact in Alaska, and with it came *this most interesting story*:

“The Yukon Inn is located on the Yukon River in the bush community of Galena. This token circulated widely up and down the Yukon River in the 1980's and until 1992, when it was taken out of circulation. Frank “Hobo” Benson built the original Yukon Inn in the early 1950's. It burned down in the early 1980's and he rebuilt it across the street from where the first one stood. Hobo passed away in October of 1990 and the Yukon Inn was bought by Archie Thurmond, a local resident. In 1992 the Yukon Inn became *Archie's Yukon Inn*. These tokens were taken out of circulation and a new plastic one issued with '*Archie's Yukon Inn*' on it. Archie passed away in the summer of 2001, in a boating accident, but the family has retained ownership, and Archie's daughter, Marlene, is the Manager and runs the place. These old tokens are still accepted but it is extremely rare to see one. The phone number on the token is still valid.

When one of the wood tokens is received now, it is thrown into a bag in the Yukon Inn's office. There were 1,000 originally made.

Galena cannot be reached by road. One must fly in.”

I would love to go there some day, to see if that “bag of woods” is still in the Yukon Inn's office....!





**SNIPPETS OF THE C.A.W.M.C. PAST: - by Ross Kingdon - continued**

Last month, I talked about some FIRSTS. I'll end off this month with a bit of THIS AND THAT. As I read through the old newsletters in order to do this 'Snippets', it was interesting to note the various references to the *issues or concerns* of the time. One of those was *Postage Costs*. In the Apr. 1978 issue, it indicates that the cost of mailing a letter in Canada would increase from *12 cents to 14 cents*. One year later (Apr. 1979), the cost went from *14 cents to 17 cents*. The next reference that I could find was in Feb. 1982 where it indicates the cost for regular mail would be *30 cents*. In 1986 (May) the postal rate in Canada was to go to *34 cents* and to *39 cents* in the U.S.A.

In the Feb. 1991 newsletter, it refers to regular mail at *40 cents (43 cents with GST)* and a comment that "it now costs more to mail a wood than the cost of the wood itself". It simply mentions that the U.S.A. costs are even higher. As you know we're now at 50 cents a letter in Canada and 85 cents for mail to the U.S.A. I'm told that *beginning in Jan. 2006 these costs will again increase*. Postal costs are one of this Association's biggest expenses, in sending out this newsletter and it eats up a large portion of your \$10.00 per year subscription fee. Of course, photocopying is also a large cost but not, as yet, as large as postal. These two costs together (postal and photocopying) actually take more than the \$10.00 subscription fee today. Revenue from auctions and other sales i.e. the *Lou Vesh Bird Series* sales keep us in the black.

Speaking of *DUES*; In 1975 the subscription fee, to join CAWMC, was only \$3.00. In 1980 the fees were increased to \$7.50 per year. At the Vancouver 1990 C.N.A. convention/CAWMC general meeting subscription costs were increased to \$10.00 a year to begin in 1991. In 1995, a youth fee of \$5.00 (16 years of age and under) was introduced in an attempt to get more young people involved.

Over the past 30 years the Association has tried to deal with many *Concerns* and what could be called Problems of the hobby. As you read about some of these, in the newsletters, you begin to realize that most or many of those concerns are still around today and that not much has changed. I think you'll see what I mean as I simply list some: July 1977 - "very little 'wood' on the bourse floor"

Aug. 1977- "unauthorized restrikes and overruns - some manufacturers are changing colours, altering wording and running extras - deliberate misprints and errors"

Aug. 1977- 'broken woods' in the mail This topic hit the newsletters many, many times.

May 1984- the price of woods Some members felt that other members were charging too much for 'personal' woods.

July 1981- What should be in the catalogue? This was a widely discussed topic over the years and sometimes is even today. A committee was struck at this July 1981 general meeting to come up with guidelines for members to follow relating to: *New woods, Numbers and Quality*. These guidelines were printed on pages 5 and 6 of the Oct. 1982 newsletter. Were they followed? Who knows? At the 2000 Ottawa general meeting, this topic got a lot of discussion. Finally, long-time CAWMC member Les Copan put forth a motion that was passed by the attending members. It stated that: *'the cataloguing of Canadian wooden money be done at the discretion of the person doing the catalogue, keeping in mind that a catalogue is for listing everything for future reference, regardless of quantity'*. Following this guideline seems to make a lot of sense to me.

Lastly, comes the Problem that *every editor*, past and present, has had to face - *'getting material for the newsletter'*. Most newsletters, over the years, regardless of editor, had a plea or request for material. For several years, Garry Braunwarth even pleaded for someone else to take over the job of editor. Nothing has changed. *Every editor would like to see more material submitted from their membership* and this editor is no exception. There are so many references to this particular topic that I'm not going to list any, except to repeat a few phrases of what others, in the past, have said ...

- continued on page 6



**SNIPPETS OF OUR C.A.W.M.C. PAST:***- continued from page 5*

... in reference to the **IMPORTANCE** of the newsletter.

July 1981 – at a time when there was a concern about the irregularity in the receiving of the newsletter, it was stated that “The bulletin is considered extremely important to the **vitality** of the Club.”

Aug. 1983 “**Our life-line** is the bulletin and our members do not want to see a deterioration in its quality or its frequency.”

Aug. 1983 “With a Club as widespread as CAWMC, **TimberTalk is the life-line of the organization**. We need a bulletin that is interesting and stimulating to the members. This means we need input from the members.”

Jan. 1985 “**TimberTalk is the common thread that holds all collectors together**. Without such a newsletter, it would be impossible to operate a strong viable organization with members scattered throughout North America.”

And finally, I reprint a past editor's comment expressing, in a past newsletter, his frustration as he passed the editorship on to someone else. “The newsletter is a thankless, unpaid job which requires a lot of time and effort every month. Over the past few months, I have found it becoming more and more of a chore.” Your current editor can sure relate to that comment.

Thus ends your current editor's feeble attempt to reflect back on some of C.A.W.M.C.'s history as this Association completes **30 years** of existence. I sincerely hope that someone can reflect back on the Association's past sixty years, in thirty years time.

**PICTURE TAKEN AT THE CAWMC 2005 GENERAL MEETING IN CALGARY:**

*Left to Right:- CAWMC Past President Garry Braunwarth, Current CAWMC President Al Munro and CAWMC Past Presidents Norm Belsten, Stan Clute and Neil Probert*

**Editor's Note:** President Al Munro has forwarded a President's Message to me but unfortunately I had the newsletter all ready for photocopying when I received it. It will appear in next month's newsletter.